

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) An interconnecting device which interconnects a plurality of ISPs and user terminals, comprising:

a receiving unit which receives packets from the user terminals, a destination information acquisition unit ~~connecting~~ connected to said receiving unit, which acquires a destination IP address from the packets received by said receiving unit,

a domain name acquisition unit which acquires a domain name, corresponding to the destination IP address acquired by said destination information acquisition unit,

a destination information storing unit which stores the domain name and ISP identification information of the ISP in association with the domain name; and

a transmitting unit ~~connecting~~ connected to said domain name acquisition unit and said destination information storing unit, said transmitting unit transmitting the packets to the ISP, and ISP identification information of ~~which~~ which is stored in said destination information storing unit in association with the domain name acquired by said domain name acquisition unit.

2. (Currently Amended) An interconnecting device which interconnects a plurality of ISPs and user terminals, comprising:

a routing information acquisition unit which acquires routing information between a communication terminal which the user terminal accesses through either of the plurality of ISPs, ~~and each of the plurality of ISPs,~~

a destination information storing unit which stores terminal identification information of a communication terminal and ISP identification information of either of the plurality of ISPs in association with the terminal identification information, based on the routing information acquired by said routing information acquisition unit,

a receiving unit which receives packets from the user terminal,

a terminal identification information acquisition unit which acquires terminal identification information of a estimation communication terminal from the packet received by said receiving unit; and

a transmitting unit which transmits the packets to the ISP; and ISP identification information ~~of which is stored~~ in said destination information storing unit in association with the terminal identification information acquired by said terminal identification information acquisition unit.

3. (Currently Amended) The interconnecting device as claimed in claim 2, wherein said routing information acquisition unit acquires routing information between the communication terminal identified by a domain name, and each of the plurality of ISPs, said destination information storing unit stores the domain names and ISP identification information of either of the plurality of ISPs in association with the domain name, based on the routing information acquired by said routing information acquisition unit, said terminal information acquisition unit acquires a destination IP address from the packets received by said receiving unit, and acquires a domain name corresponding to the acquired destination IP address from a DNS server, and said transmitting unit transmits the packets to the ISP; and ISP identification information ~~of which is stored~~ in said destination information storing unit in association with the domain name acquired by said terminal information acquisition unit.
4. (Original) The interconnecting device as claimed in claim 3, wherein said routing information acquisition unit acquires hop counts, as the routing information, at the time of transmitting packets to a communication terminal identified by the domain name through each of the plurality of ISPs, and said destination information storing unit stores the domain name and the ISP identification information in association with the domain name, when the hop count via the ISP, acquired by said routing information acquisition unit, is fewer than the hop count via the other ISPs.
5. (Original) The interconnecting device as claimed in claim 3, wherein said routing information acquisition unit acquires response times, as the routing information, at the

time of transmitting packets to a communication terminal identified by the domain name through each of the plurality of ISPs, and said destination information storing unit stores the domain name and the ISP identification information in association with the domain name, when the response time via the ISP, acquired by said routing information acquisition unit, is shorter than the response time via the other ISPs.

6. (Currently Amended) The interconnecting device as claimed in claim 3, wherein said transmitting unit continues, until a predetermined period passes, to transmit packets received by said receiving unit from the user terminal to the same ISP, afterwards said transmitting unit begins to transmit the packets to the ISP; and ISP identification information ~~of which~~ is stored in said destination information storing unit in association with the domain name acquired by said terminal information acquisition unit.
7. (Original) The interconnecting device as claimed in claim 3, further comprising a historical information storing unit which stores the routing information acquired by said routing information acquisition unit in association with a time, wherein said destination information storing unit stores the domain name and ISP identification information of either of the plurality of ISPs in association with the domain name and each time zone, based on the routing information stored in said historical information storing unit.
8. (Original) The interconnecting device as claimed in claim 3, further comprising an access count storing unit which stores an access count to the communication terminal identified by the domain name in association with the domain name, wherein said routing information acquisition unit acquires routing information between the communication terminal identified by a domain name, and each of the plurality of ISPs, in the case where the access count stored in said access count storing unit is more than a predetermined count.
9. (Currently Amended) An interconnecting method of an interconnecting device which interconnects a plurality of ISPs and user terminals, comprising:

a receiving ~~step which receives~~ packets from the user terminals,

~~a destination information acquisition step which acquires~~ acquiring a destination IP address from ~~the~~ a packet received in during said receiving step,

~~a domain name acquisition step which acquires~~ acquiring a domain name corresponding to the destination IP address ~~acquired in said destination information acquisition step~~ from a DNS server; and

a transmitting step ~~which transmits the packets to the ISP; and~~ ISP identification information of ~~which is stored in said destination information storing unit in association with the domain name acquired in said domain name acquisition step~~ including said destination IP address and said domain name.

10. (Currently Amended) An interconnecting method of an interconnecting device which interconnects a plurality of ISPs and user terminals, comprising:

~~a routing information acquisition step which acquires~~ acquiring routing information between a communication terminal which the user terminal accesses through either of the plurality of ISPs, ~~and each of the plurality of ISPs;~~

~~a destination information storing step which stores~~ terminal identification information of a communication terminal and ISP identification information of either of the plurality of ISPs in association with the terminal identification information ~~to said destination information storing unit;~~ based on the routing information ~~acquired in said routing information acquisition step;~~

a receiving step ~~which receives~~ packets from the user terminal,

~~a terminal identification information acquisition step which acquires~~ acquiring terminal identification information of a destination communication terminal from ~~the packet received in said receiving step~~ said packets; and

a transmitting unit ~~which transmits~~ packets to the ISP; ~~and~~ ISP identification information of ~~which is stored in said destination information storing unit~~ in association with the

terminal identification information ~~acquired in said terminal identification information acquisition step.~~

11. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium storing thereon a program for an interconnecting device which interconnects a plurality of ISPs and user terminals, ~~operating the interconnecting device by, comprising executable instructions to:~~

~~a receiving means which receives~~ receive packets from the user terminals,

~~a destination information acquisition means which acquires~~ acquire a destination IP address from the a received packet ~~received by said receiving means,~~

~~a domain name acquisition means which acquires~~ acquire from a DNS server a domain name corresponding to the destination IP address ~~acquired by said destination information acquisition means from a DNS server,~~

~~a destination information storing means which stores~~ store the domain name and the an ISP ~~in association~~ associated with the domain name; and

~~a transmitting means which transmits~~ transmit the packets to the ISP; and ISP identification information ~~of which is stored in said destination information storing unit in association with the domain name acquired by said domain name acquisition means.~~

12. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium storing thereon a program for an interconnecting device which interconnects a plurality of ISPs and user terminals, ~~operating the interconnecting device by comprising executable instructions to:~~

~~a routing information acquisition means which acquires~~ acquire routing information between a communication terminal which the user terminal accesses through either of the plurality of ISPs, ~~and each of the plurality of ISPs,~~

~~a destination information storing means which stores~~ store terminal identification information of a communication terminal and ISP identification information of either of

the plurality of ISPs in association with the terminal identification information, based on the routing information ~~acquired by said routing information acquisition means,~~

~~a receiving means which receives~~ receive packets from the user terminal,

~~a terminal identification information acquisition means which acquires~~ acquire terminal identification information of a destination communication terminal from ~~the packet a~~ received packet by ~~said receiving means;~~ and

~~a transmitting means which transmits~~ transmit the packets to the ISP; and ISP identification information ~~of which is stored in said destination information storing unit~~ in association with the terminal identification information ~~acquired by said terminal identification information acquisition means.~~

13. (Currently Amended) A communication system comprising an interconnecting device which interconnects user terminals and the Internet, and a plurality of ISPs which authenticate the interconnecting device and permit connection with the Internet, the interconnecting device comprising:

a receiving unit which receives packets from the user terminals,

a destination information acquisition unit which acquires a destination IP address from the packets received by said receiving unit,

a domain name acquisition unit which acquires a domain name, corresponding to the IP address acquired by said destination information acquisition unit, from a DNS server,

a destination information storing unit which stores the domain name and the ISP in association with the domain name,

a transmitting unit which transmits the packets to the ISP; and ISP identification information ~~of which is stored in said destination information storing unit~~ in association with the domain name acquired by said domain name acquisition unit.

14. (Currently Amended) A communication system comprising an interconnecting device which interconnects user terminals and the Internet, and a plurality of ISPs which authenticate the interconnecting device and permit connection with the Internet, the interconnecting device comprising:

a routing information acquisition unit which acquires routing information between a communication terminal which the user terminal accesses through either of the plurality of ISPs, ~~and each of the plurality of ISPs,~~

a destination information storing unit which stores terminal identification information of a communication terminal and ISP identification information of either of the plurality of ISPs in association with the terminal identification information, based on the routing information acquired by said routing information acquisition unit,

a receiving unit which receives packets from the user terminal,

a terminal identification information acquisition unit which acquires terminal identification information of a destination communication terminal from ~~the~~ a packet received by said receiving unit; and

a transmitting unit which transmits the packets to the ISP; and ISP identification information ~~of which is~~ stored in said destination information storing unit in association with the terminal identification information acquired by said terminal identification information acquisition unit.